

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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**MEETING PROFESSIONALS INTERNATIONAL ANNOUNCES
2009-2010 INTERNATIONAL LEADERSHIP
*New Global Volunteer Team Poised to Lead***

DALLAS – July 1, 2009 – Meeting Professionals International (MPI) announces its 2009-2010 Board of Directors, MPI Volunteer Chairs, MPI Foundation Global Board of Trustees, for the fiscal year July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010.

Ann Godi, CMP, President, Benchmark 360°, Inc. will assume the role as the 2009-2010 chairwoman of the MPI Board of Directors. Margaret Moynihan, CMP, Director, Deloitte LLP, will lead the 2009-2010 MPI Foundation Global Board of Trustees.

"Ann and Margaret bring incredible industry experience as well as a legacy of MPI community service to their leadership roles. Their appointment to these leadership positions at this time of industry shift ensures MPI's commitment to the success of our members remains paramount," said Bruce MacMillan, president and CEO of MPI.

Ms. Godi served as a member of the MPI Board of Directors from 2003-2006. She began service on the MPI executive committee in 2007, and was elected chairwoman-elect in 2008. She also served four years on the MPI Georgia Chapter Board of Directors. Under her direction, Benchmark 360°, Inc. has become a leader in managing conferences, meetings, incentives, and events for corporations including Fortune 500 companies. The company serves clients across North America, including Canada, as well as Europe and the UK.

In addition to her service since 2005 on the MPI Foundation Board of Trustees, Ms. Moynihan has also served on the MPI Board of Directors, the MPI Westfield Chapter Board of Directors, and the MPI Greater New York Board of Directors. She was awarded MPI International Planner of the Year in 1997. As a Director at Deloitte, she continues to play a leadership role in planning and management of the US Partner/Director and DTT World Meetings. Previously, she held the position of Director of the Global Conference Group for 26 years.

Effective today, the volunteer leaders listed below assumed leadership roles to build a global meeting industry community:

2009-2010 MPI Board of Directors Executive Committee:

- Chairwoman: Ann Godi, CMP, President, Benchmark360°, Inc.
- Chairman-Elect: Eric Rozenberg, CMP, CMM, President, Swantegy
- Vice Chairman of Finance: Craig Ardis, CMM, Director Global Event Management, Zimmer Inc.
- Vice Chairman: Sebastien Tondeur, CEO, Corporate Division, MCI
- Vice Chairman: Kevin Kirby, Senior Director of Sales, Hard Rock International
- Immediate Past Chairman: Larry Luteran, Senior Vice President, Group Sales and Industry Relations, Hilton Hotels Corporation
- Ex-Officio: Bruce MacMillan, CA, President & CEO

2009-2010 MPI Board of Directors Members:

- Chuck Bowling, Executive Vice President, Mandalay Bay Resort & Casino
- Matt Brody, CHSP, Director of Marketing, JW Marriott Starr Pass Resort and Spa
- Paul Cunningham, President & CEO, IIMC International Information Management Corporation
- Cindy D' Aoust, Senior Vice President Consolidation, Maritz Travel Company
- Luca Favetta, Senior Director Global Events EMEA, SAP SA
- Chris Gasbarro, Chief Creative Officer, C3, llc
- Caroline Hill, Director, Eventful Solutions
- Kevin Hinton, Principal, hinton+grusich
- Issa Jouaneh, PENG MBA, Vice President-Global Meeting Solutions, American Express
- Patty Reger, CMM, Senior Meeting Manager, Johnson & Johnson Sales and Logistics Company, LLC
- David Scypinski, Senior VP, ConferenceDirect
- Carl Winston, Director, Hospitality and Tourism Management Program, San Diego State University
- Legal Counsel: Jonathan T. Howe, Esq., President/Senior Partner, Howe & Hutton, Ltd.

2009-2010 MPI Volunteer Chairs:

- Asia Pacific Advisory Council: Aloysius Arlando, Assistant Chief Executive, Singapore Tourism Board
- Audit/Finance Committee: Craig Ardis, CMM, Director Global Event Management, Zimmer Inc.
- Body of Knowledge Task Force, Amanda Cecil, PhD, Assistant Professor, Indiana University
- Brand Advisory Council, Eric Rozenberg, CMP, CMM, President, Swantegy
- Strategic Meetings Management Work Group, Alexandra Wagner, Director – Corp. Event Marketing; Asst. Director – Sponsorships, SunTrust Banks, Inc.
- Chapter Advisory Council, Michael Owen, Managing Partner, EventGenuity, LLC
- Community Membership Advisory Council: Denise Mongoven, Director of Global Accounts, Omni Hotels Global Sales
- Executive Advisory Council: Angie Pfeifer, CMM, Assistant Vice President, Corporate Meetings, Travel & Incentives, Investors Group Financial Services, Inc.
- Faculty Task Force: George Fenich, PhD, Professor, East Carolina University
- Governance/Nominating Committee: Larry Luteran, Senior Vice President, Group Sales and Industry Relations, Hilton Hotels Corporation
- Marketplace Advisory Council: Michael Dominguez, Director of Marketing, Loews Ventana Canyon Resort
- RISE Awards Judging Panel: Hattie Hill, CMM, CEO, HHE, Inc.
- Special Advisor Corporate Social Responsibility: Marge Anderson, Associate Director, Energy Center of Wisconsin

2009-2010 MPI Foundation Global Board of Trustees Executive Committee

- Chairwoman: Margaret A. Moynihan, CMP, Director, Deloitte LLP
- Chairman-Elect: Ken Sanders, President, Freeman AV
- Vice Chairwoman-Finance: Allison Kinsley, CMP, CMM, Chief Meeting Architect, Kinsley & Associates, LLC
- Vice Chairman-Projects: Kevin Olsen, Senior Partner, One Smooth Stone
- Vice Chairman-Development: David W. Johnson, President/CEO, Aimbridge Hospitality, LP
- Immediate Past Chairwoman: Rita D. Plaskett, CMP, CMM, President, AGENDUM, Inc.
- Ex-Officio: Bruce MacMillan, CA, President & CEO

2009-2010 MPI Foundation Global Board of Trustee Members:

- Melanie Cook, Director-Corporate Sales, Coast Hotels & Resorts
- Michael Deitemeyer, President, Omni Hotels
- David DuBois, CMP, CAE, President & CEO, Fort Worth Convention & Visitors Bureau, MPI Foundation US Council Chair
- Richard Harper, CMP, Vice President- Sales & Marketing, Mandalay Bay Resort & Casino
- Joe Nishi, Regional Director, The Meeting Encore Group Inc., MPI Foundation Canada Council Chair
- Chris Gabaldon, Vice President Global Sales, The Ritz-Carlton Hotel Company,
- Mark Komine, Senior Vice President, Sales – The Americas, Hilton Hotels Corporation
- Michael Massari, Vice President of Meeting Sales & Operations-Las Vegas, Las Vegas Meetings by Harrah's Entertainment
- Alan Pini, CMP, CMM, Chief Executive, TEKNOCONGRESS ICS®, MPI Foundation EMEA Council Chair
- Richard A. Smith, President & CEO, FelCor Lodging Trust
- Jeff Wagoner, President, Wyndham Hotels and Resorts
- Legal Counsel: Jonathan T. Howe, Esq. President/Senior Partner, Howe & Hutton, Ltd.

About MPI:

Meeting Professionals International (MPI), the meeting and event industry's largest and most vibrant global community, helps our members thrive by providing human connections to knowledge and ideas, relationships, and marketplaces. MPI membership is comprised of more than 24,000 members belonging to 71 chapters and clubs worldwide. For additional information, visit mpiweb.org.

About MPI Foundation:

The MPI Foundation powers the vision of Meeting Professionals International (MPI), the meetings and events industry's largest and most vibrant global community comprised of more than 24,000 members representing 80 countries worldwide. Contributions from MPI members, chapters, and organizations are invested in high-impact programs to support a rich, global meetings and events industry and shape the future of the meetings and events profession. For more information, visit www.mpifoundation.org.